

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

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TAGS:SENF, EFIS, IWC-1

SUBJECT: PREPARATORY MEETING ON RENEGOTIATION OF IWC CON-
VENTION, COPENHAGEN, 4-7 JULY 1978

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO RECENT VISIT OF ARON AND BARNES WITH
UK IWC COMMISSIONER KELSEY AND MR. GURD, USG WOULD LIKE TO
SOLICIT SUPPORT OF UK IN MAINTAINING STRONG CONSERVATION
OPTIONS IN PRESENT DRAFT TEXT OF NEW IWC CONVENTION WHICH
WILL BE DISCUSSED AT SUBJECT MEETING. THERE IS SOME CON-
CERN WITHIN USG THAT THERE MAY BE SOME ATTEMPTS TO REDUCE
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PAGE 02 STATE 155505

OPTIONS IN PRESENT TEXT TO PRODUCE SINGLE DRAFT TEXT. USG
FEELS THIS WOULD BE PREMATURE AND WOULD BE AIMED PRIMARILY
AT STRONG CONSERVATION PROPOSALS MOST OF WHICH WERE PRO-
POSED BY USG. EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE PROPOSALS CAN BE COUN-
TERED BY POINTING OUT DRAFT TEXT HAS NOT RECEIVED WIDE
DISTRIBUTION TO ALL COUNTRIES THAT MIGHT BE INTERESTED AND
PARTICIPATION IN COPENHAGEN MEETING IS LIMITED TO MEMBER

NATIONS AND NON-MEMBER WHALING RPT WHALING NATIONS.

2. WHILE USG WILL NOT RPT NOT BE PRESSING FOR RENEGOTIA-
TION EFFORT TO MOVE FORWARD AS QUICKLY AS WE HAVE IN THE
PAST--AS U.S. TEAM INFORMED KELSEY AND GURD--USG EXPECTS
TO PRESENT SOME NEW PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENTS TO PREVIOUS
PROPOSALS AT COPENHAGEN MEETING. WE UNDERSTAND CANADA AND
POSSIBLY OTHER COUNTRIES MAY ALSO DO SO. USG CONSIDERS
IT APPROPRIATE FOR COPENHAGEN MEETING TO CONSIDER ALL
-PROPOSALS FROM IWC MEMBER NATIONS AND NON-MEMBERS WHO
WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROCESS FOR FIRST TIME AT
COPENHAGEN. THIS WILL ASSURE THAT INTERESTS OF ALL
PARTICIPANTS ARE IDENTIFIED AND THOROUGHLY CONSIDERED.
USG IS SEEKING AGREEMENT FROM ALL IWC MEMBER NATIONS THAT
NEW PROPSOALS MAY BE PRESENTED AT COPENHAGEN. IN ADDI-
TION, USG WOULD APPRECIATE U.K. SUPPORT FOR NEW USG
PROPOSALS IN AREAS OF (1) MECHANISM FOR COORDINATION WITH
OTHER ORGANIZATIONS DEALING WITH CETACEANS; (2) PROVISION
FOR HABITAT PROTECTION AND FOR CONSULTATION ON POSSIBLE
ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT ADVERSELY AFFECT CETACEANS, AND
(3) POSSIBLE PROVISION FOR AN INDEPENDENT SCIENTIFIC STAFF
FOR THE COMMISSION. DRAFT LANGUAGE IS BEING PREPARED AND
USDEL WILL DISCUSS WITH UKDEL AT LONDON IWC MEETING AND
COPENHAGEN.

3. ACTION: WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY DISCUSSING ABOVE
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PAGE 03 STATE 155505

WITH KELSEY AND/OR GURD AND REPORTING THEIR COMMENTS, IF
ANY, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
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